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|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| APPLICATION NO.          | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/720,952               | 11/24/2003  | Craig L. Reding      | 03-1019             | 5277             |
| 25537                    | 7590        | 06/04/2008           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| VERIZON                  |             |                      | ELAHEE, MD S        |                  |
| PATENT MANAGEMENT GROUP  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

[patents@verizon.com](mailto:patents@verizon.com)

|                              |                                      |                                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/720,952 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>REDING ET AL. |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>MD S. ELAHEE      | <b>Art Unit</b><br>2614              |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2003.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 November 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTC/G6/r08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/04/02/06/06/07/10/07/01/08/04/08.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statements (IDS's) submitted on July 20, 2004, February 08, 2006, June 014, 2007, October 23, 2007, January 16, 2008 and April 10, 2008 were received. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by the examiner.

### ***Double Patenting***

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

3. Claims 1-21 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 6-12 of co-pending application no. 10/720,920. Because claim in the pending application is broader than the one in co-pending application, In re Van Ornum and Stang, 214 USPQT61, broad claims in the pending application are rejected as obvious double patenting over previously patented narrow claims. For example, claim 1 of the

pending application are the same as claim 1 of the co-pending application except receiving a notification at a server.

4. Claims 1-21 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-37 and 110 of co-pending application no. 10/858,973. Because claim in the pending application is broader than the one in co-pending application, In re Van Ornum and Stang, 214 USPQT61, broad claims in the pending application are rejected as obvious double patenting over previously patented narrow claims. For example, claim 1 of the pending application are the same as claim 1 of the co-pending application except displaying step.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-4 and 7-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Abburi (U.S. Patent No. 7,130,390).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 19, with respect to Figures 1, 2 and 4, Abburi teaches a method for providing a notification to a telephone user having a plurality of devices including a preferred device, comprising:

receiving information indicating incoming data directed to one of a plurality of devices of the user, the data being in the form of one of a plurality of data types (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.6, lines 24-41); and

Abburi further teaches transmitting a notification to the user's preferred device, the notification including an identification of the type of the incoming data (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.6, lines 24-41).

Regarding claim 2, Abburi, as applied to claim 1, teaches receiving user selection of the preferred device (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.6, lines 24-41).

Regarding claim 3, Abburi, as applied to claim 1, teaches that receiving a user selection of a time period during which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device (col.5, lines 45-61).

Regarding claim 4, Abburi, as applied to claim 1, teaches that receiving a user selection of a device for which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62).

Regarding claim 7, Abburi, as applied to claim 1, teaches receiving user specifications of a preferred device for receiving notifications based on at least one of the time of day or calling party (col.5, lines 45-61).

Regarding claim 8, Abburi, as applied to claim 2, teaches that receiving user selection of the preferred device comprises receiving selection of a wireless phone capable of displaying text messages (col.4, lines 35-62, col.8, lines 48-54).

Regarding claim 9, Abburi, as applied to claim 2, teaches that receiving user selection of the preferred device comprises receiving selection of a landline phone (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62).

Regarding claim 10, Abburi, as applied to claim 2, teaches that receiving user selection of the preferred device comprises receiving selection of a desktop or laptop computer (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62).

Regarding claim 11, Abburi, as applied to claim 2, teaches that receiving user selection of the preferred device comprises receiving selection of a handheld device (col.4, lines 35-62, col.8, lines 48-54).

Regarding claim 13, Abburi, as applied to claim 12, teaches that a database for storing identifications of calling parties from whom notifications are transmitted to the preferred device (col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.10, line 12-col.11, line 3).

Regarding claim 14, Abburi, as applied to claim 13, teaches that the database stores times during which notifications are transmitted to the preferred device (col.5, lines 45-61).

Claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Abburi teaches receiving information from a calling party calling one of the plurality of devices (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.6, lines 24-41); and

Abburi further teaches generating a signal to the preferred device to display a real-time notification (col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.6, lines 24-41, col.9, lines 28-41).

Regarding claim 16, Abburi, as applied to claim 15, teaches that generating the notification includes the name and phone number of the calling party (col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.10, line 12-col.11, line 3).

Regarding claim 17, Abburi, as applied to claim 16, teaches that the notification includes the date and time, type of communication, and access method (col.5, lines 45-61).

Regarding claim 18, Abburi, as applied to claim 17, teaches that generating the notification further includes a voice mail message (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

9. Claims 5, 6, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abburi in view of Hellebust et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,194).

Regarding claims 5 and 20, Abburi, as applied to claims 1 and 19, does not specifically teach receiving a user selection of calling parties from which notifications are to be transmitted

to the preferred device. Hellebust teaches receiving a user selection of calling parties from which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device (col.1, lines 42-57, col.2, lines 64-67, col.3, lines 1-13). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Abburi to incorporate the feature of receiving a user selection of calling parties from which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device in Abburi's invention as taught by Hellebust. The motivation for the modification is to do so in order to filter incoming messages based on choice such that the user can easily informed important messages from a particular person.

Claims 6 and 21 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 5 and 17.

10. Claims 1, 12, 15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huna et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0012286) in view of Abburi (U.S. Patent No. 7,130,390).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 19, with respect to Figures 1-3, 6, 8 and 11-14, Huna teaches a method for providing a notification to a telephone user including a preferred device, comprising:  
receiving information indicating incoming data directed to one of a plurality of devices of the user, the data being in the form of one of a plurality of data types (abstract; page 2, paragraphs 0016-0020, page 3, paragraphs 0042, 0043, page 4, paragraph 0047, page 6, paragraphs 0070-0072, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0086, 0087); and

Huna further teaches transmitting a notification to the user's preferred device, the notification including an identification of the type of the incoming data (abstract; page 2, paragraphs 0016-0020, page 3, paragraphs 0042, 0043, page 4, paragraph 0047, page 6, paragraphs 0070-0072, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0086, 0087).

Huna further teaches that receiving alert depend on user's choice of type of device he desires to receive the alert (page 7, paragraph 0092). However, Huna does not specifically teach a telephone user having a plurality of devices. Abburi teaches a telephone user having a plurality of devices (abstract; col.2, lines 24-44, 66, 67, col.3, lines 1-19, col.4, lines 35-62, col.6, lines 24-41). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Huna to incorporate a telephone user having a plurality of devices in Huna's invention as taught by Abburi. The motivation for the modification is to do so in order to receive notification messages in different types of user devices such that the user can receive notification whenever he is with a particular type of device at his own choice.

Claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Huna teaches receiving information from a calling party calling one of the plurality of devices (abstract; page 2, paragraphs 0016-0020, page 3, paragraphs 0042, 0043, page 4, paragraph 0047, page 6, paragraphs 0070-0072, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0086, 0087); and

Huna further teaches generating a signal to the preferred device to display a real-time notification (fig.13, item 1318; page 2, paragraphs 0016-0020, page 3, paragraphs 0042, 0043, page 4, paragraph 0047, page 6, paragraphs 0070-0072, page 7, paragraphs 0084, 0086, 0087).

***Conclusion***

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MD S. ELAHEE whose telephone number is (571)272-7536. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Fri from 9:00am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/MD S ELAHEE/  
MD SHAFIU ALAM ELAHEE  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2614  
June 3, 2008